

S. I. Ry.—PROVISION OF ELECTRIC FANS AND ENHANCEMENT OF FARES.

125. Mr. M. K. Devassy (Adur): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there is any truth in the reports in papers that the S. I. R. Company is going to enhance the railway fare for fitting up electric fans in the compartments; and

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to move the authorities concerned to drop the proposal referred to in the above clause?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government): There is no proposal to provide fans in third class carriages on the S. I. R. at present and to increase the Railway fare in consequence.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): Sir, Is it not desirable to press the railway authorities to provide the third class compartments with fans without increasing the rates of fares?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government): I do not know whether it is possible, because when expenditure has to be increased, it has to be met somehow.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): Will the Government be pleased to consider that question, and place before the railway board the desirability of providing third class passengers with fans?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government): Does the member confine this only to the Shoranur-Cochin Railway alone? Are there fans on the other lines also?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): It is a necessity everywhere, but unfortunately we can't do anything with respect to other States.

UNEMPLOYMENT—STATISTICS OF.

126. Mr. M. K. Devassy (Adur): Will the Government be pleased to include the statistics regarding the extent of unemployment in the State as an item in the ensuing Census Report of the State?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government): Government will bear in mind the suggestion of the hon'ble member.

MATTANCHERI BYE-ELECTION—REASONS FOR.

127. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan (Commerce and Industries): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the circumstances under which a member of the Cochin Legislative Council returned for Mattancheri in the last General Election was unseated; and

(b) the circumstances which led to his being allowed to stand for re-election?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) The Election Commissioners held that the election was vitiated by corrupt practices.

(b) The candidate's nomination paper was accepted by the Returning Officer.

COCHIN HARBOUR—IMPORTS

128. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): Will the Government be pleased to state what are the chief articles imported into the State through the Harbour?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Grains and pulse, kerosene, petrol and other oils, Coal, Sugar, Machinery, and Cement are the chief articles of import at the Cochin Harbour.

BRANCH ANCHAL MASTERS—ALLOWANCE AND WORK— PARTICULARS REGARDING.

129. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the grade or grades of allowance paid to the branch Anchal Masters;

(b) the reasons for the disparity in allowance to the branch Anchal Masters;

(c) whether any special allowance is paid to branch Anchal Masters working within the town limits;

(d) whether any representations have been received by the Government to enhance their allowance to Rs. 10;

(e) whether the Government are aware that the allowance of branch Anchal Masters in Travancore is Rs. 10?

Mr. P. J. George (*Joint Secretary to Government*): (a) There are 4 grades viz., 10, 8, 7 and 6.

(b) The allowance is generally fixed with reference to the income and volume of work in the office.

(c) No kind of special allowance is paid.

(d) There are representations from some branch Anchal Masters for increased allowance.

(e) Yes.